

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Please **AMEND** the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An implantable bio-ablation composition comprising a first coding sequence that encodes and expresses<sub>1</sub> in atrioventricular node cells, a molecule that decreases expression of L-type Ca<sup>2+</sup> channels and thereby suppresses cellular excitability and a second coding sequence that encodes and expresses a protein that decreases the conductance of an ion channel L-type Ca<sup>2+</sup> channels responsible for cellular excitability, wherein expression of both the first and second sequences is effective to substantially extinguish conduction through the atrioventricular node.
2. (Currently Amended) The bio-ablation composition of claim 1, wherein the molecule that decreases expression of L-type Ca<sup>2+</sup> channels and thereby suppresses cellular excitability is a regulatory G-protein.
3. (Original) The bio-ablation composition of claim 2, wherein the G-protein is kir/GEM.
4. (Canceled).
5. (Canceled).
6. (Original) The bio-ablation composition of claim 1, wherein the protein that decreases ion channel conductance is G<sub>i</sub>.
7. (Canceled).
8. - 45. (Canceled).

46. (New) The bio-ablation composition of claim 1, wherein the composition comprises a viral vector that includes the first and second coding sequences.

47. (New) The bio-ablation composition of claim 46, wherein the viral vector is a vector selected from the group consisting of a retroviral vector, an adenoviral associated vector, a vaccinia virus vector, and a Semliki Forest virus vector.

48. (New) The bio-ablation composition of claim 47, wherein the viral vector is an adenoviral associated vector.

49. (New) The bio-ablation composition of claim 6, wherein the composition comprises a sufficient amount of the  $G_i$  to overexpress  $G_i$  in the atrioventricular node.

50. (New) The bio-ablation composition of claim 2, wherein the composition comprises a sufficient amount of kir/GEM to overexpress kir/GEM in the atrioventricular node.

51. (New) An implantable bio-ablation composition comprising a first coding sequence that encodes and expresses kir/GEM in atrioventricular node cells and a second coding sequence that encodes and expresses  $G_i$  in atrioventricular node cells, wherein expression of the sequences is effective to substantially extinguish conduction through the atrioventricular node.

52. (New) The bio-ablation composition of claim 51, wherein the composition comprises a viral vector that includes the first and second coding sequences.

53. (New) The bio-ablation composition of claim 52, wherein the viral vector is a vector selected from the group consisting of a retroviral vector, an adenoviral associated vector, a vaccinia virus vector, and a Semliki Forest virus vector.

54. (New) The bio-ablation composition of claim 53, wherein the viral vector is an adenoviral associated vector.

55. (New) The bio-ablation composition of claim 51, wherein the composition comprises a sufficient amount of the  $G_i$  to overexpress  $G_i$  in the atrioventricular node.

56. (New) The bio-ablation composition of claim 51, wherein the composition comprises a sufficient amount of kir/GEM to overexpress kir/GEM in the atrioventricular node.